



<NOTICE>

<PREAMB>

Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2013-0001]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex  
Committee on Food Labeling

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety,  
USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food  
Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food  
and Drug Administration (FDA), are sponsoring a public  
meeting on April 17, 2013. The objective of the public  
meeting is to provide information and receive public  
comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.)  
positions that will be discussed at the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the  
Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL) of the Codex  
Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada from May 14-17,  
2013. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and FDA recognize  
the importance of providing interested parties the

opportunity to obtain background information on the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL, and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, 2013, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Jamie L. Whitten Building, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL will be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/>.

The U.S. Delegate to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address: [ccfl@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:ccfl@fda.hhs.gov).

CALL-IN NUMBER:

If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL, by conference call, please use the call in number and participant code listed below:

Call-in Number: 1-888-858-2144

Participant code: 6208658

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 41<sup>st</sup> SESSION OF THE CCFL:  
CONTACT: Office of Nutrition, Labeling, and Dietary  
Supplements, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition,  
FDA, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway (HFS-800), College Park, MD  
20740, E-mail: [ccfl@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:ccfl@fda.hhs.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC MEETING CONTACT:  
Doreen Chen-Moulec, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence  
Avenue SW, Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: (202)  
205-7760, Fax: (202) 720-3157,  
E-mail: [uscodex@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:uscodex@fsis.usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCFL is responsible for:

- (a) Drafting provisions on labeling applicable to all foods;
- (b) Considering, amending if necessary, and endorsing draft specific provisions on labeling prepared by the Codex Committees drafting standards, codes of practice and guidelines;
- (c) Studying specific labeling problems assigned to it by Codex; and
- (d) Studying problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims and misleading descriptions.

The Committee is hosted by Canada.

#### Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred to the CCFL
- Consideration of labeling provisions in draft Codex standards
- Implementation of the World Health Organization Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health

(a) Proposed draft revision of the Guidelines on Nutrition and Health Claims concerning Non-Addition of Sodium Salts

- Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labeling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods
  - (a) Use of ethylene as sprouting inhibitor for onions and potatoes
  - (b) Organic aquaculture
- Discussion Paper on Issues Related to Date Marking
- Discussion Paper on Labeling of Food Derived from Crops Biofortified by Natural Selection
- Other Business and Future Work

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat prior to the meeting. Members of the public may access these documents (see ADDRESSES).

Public Meeting

At the April 17, 2013, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be

offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the CCFL.

#### Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_and\\_policies/Federal Register Notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/Federal_Register_Notices/index.asp).

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customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News & Events/Email Subscription/>.

Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or  
call 202-720-5964 (voice and TTY). USDA is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer.

Done at Washington, DC on:  
January 24, 2013.

Mary Frances Lowe,  
U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

<FRDOC> [FR Doc. 2013&ndash;02108 Filed  
1&ndash;30&ndash;13; 8:45 am]  
<BILCOD>BILLING CODE 3410&ndash;DM&ndash;P

[FR Doc. 2013-02108 Filed 01/30/2013 at 8:45 am;  
Publication Date: 01/31/2013]